

## Panshanger School Year 2 Summer Newsletter

*We are now on the home run! The year has passed so quickly, the junior years are now fast approaching. The following is an overview of this term's planning which will be added to as the term progresses according to the interests and needs of the children.*

*Throughout the academic year the children will be completing practise SAT papers (reading, writing and maths) We do this for a variety of reasons e.g. the papers are not so scary if they have been practised, they give accurate levels, they identify gaps in learning which will help guide future lessons etc.*

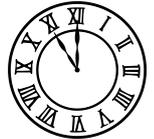
***I will be holding a SAT information session at 845am on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> May. Please feel free to come along.***

**English / Literacy/ Phonics** - Every week children will take part in daily phonics lesson to develop strategies for reading and spelling and reading on an individual basis with the Class teacher and teaching assistant. This will include a weekly Guided Reading session where the children will read a text in a group situation. Children's writing will be developed through poetry, non fiction writing and story writing as well as writing through other areas of the curriculum. Speaking, listening and responding will be developed through class and individual discussion, drama, explaining what they are doing and by using 'talk partners'.



**Maths / Numeracy** - The following areas will be covered over the term via a dedicated daily maths session and problem solving will be addressed through many of these key areas:

- Counting and calculating – this will include counting in different steps e.g. 5's 10's forwards and backwards. All four operations will be used for calculations (add, subtract, multiply and divide)
- Securing number facts and transferring knowledge
- Understanding shape, properties of 2d and 3d shape, symmetry, position and direction
- Handling data
- Measuring time, length, weight and volume using standard measures.



**Science - First half term - Plants and animals in the local environment** - Through these units the children will learn about plants and animals in their immediate environment. They will explore how differences between places very close to each other result in a different range of plants and animals being found. They learn that like humans, plants and other animals reproduce. They will also explore differences amongst themselves.



**Second half term –**

**Microhabitats and Food Chains** – We will be exploring microhabitats and identifying various creatures and plants in their environments.

**ICT - Finding Information** In this unit children learn to search for information held on a website/ database. They are taught to use menus, indexes and key words to search for pictures and gather information. They will also create their own database.

**Questions and answers** - In this unit, children develop their awareness of different types of questions, how they can be asked and how ICT can be used to answer them using different types of software.



**Humanities**

**Geography focus** - The children will be taught to recall information about their local area and use this to help them study a contrasting area – Australia. By the end of the topic the children should be able to recognise how each environment is different and changing. They will learn to use a variety of resources to find out information. They should be able to identify, with help, other places in the world where holidays may be taken.



**Design and Technology** This unit introduces the children to the concept of winding mechanisms, building on previous knowledge of wheels and axles. The children explore how to make winding mechanisms using construction kits, then, after discussion, make a raft using a winding mechanism out of reclaimed materials.



**Art** - Through a variety of topic related activities the children will explore a range of techniques and materials. These will include clay, paint, collage, 3d modelling, oil and chalk pastels etc. children will be encouraged to use their own ideas to develop creativity as well as getting inspiration and ideas from the work of famous artists. They will be encouraged to evaluate their own work and suggest ways to improve it.



**PE** - There will be outdoor games and athletics sessions each week for the first half term. During the second half term swimming will commence and games will continue. Activities and skills will vary from individual, paired and group work. Evaluating, improving performance, developing an awareness of the effects of exercise on the body the ability to evaluate own and others' performance will be a common thread throughout all lessons.



## Reminders

Mrs. Ward will be teaching the class Art one afternoon a week. The children will be continuing their music lessons with Mr Mitchell. Mrs Jeffrey will continue to teach the class on Thursdays and French lessons will also resume with Madame Bruce.

We have **PE on Monday and Thursday** however PE kits should be in school every day. Your child will need navy shorts and a jade t-shirt for indoor PE and suitable warmer clothing for outdoor PE e.g. plain jogging trousers and sweatshirt. They will also need suitable shoes for outdoor PE, e.g. trainers, as plimsolls are only to be worn indoors. Please provide suitable hair bands to tie back long hair. Should your child have pierced ears, tape must be provided to cover the earrings during PE times in accordance with Health and Safety rules.

Please ensure that your child has correct **school uniform** including dark plimsolls and plain socks. Refer to the School Newsletter to remind you about rules regarding school uniform. Many items are available at the office. Please also name all items of clothing and equipment. Nail varnish and tattoos should not be worn at school and reminders will be given to remove them if the case arises. Girls should wear suitable hair bands for school.

**Book Bags** should be in school every day as there are daily opportunities to read alone, with a friend, with Mrs. Deacon and with me. Endeavour to spend about 5 - 10 minutes each day reading with / to your child and practicing any key words. Please ensure you write in the **Reading Record** as an indication to me of how much your child has read. In order to earn Golden Time your child is required to read at least **three times a week at home and this needs to be recorded in the home/school reading record**. Reading records will be checked on a **Friday** and your child will lose 5 minutes of their break time if they have not read at least 3 times in a week. It is up to the parents to ensure this reading takes place as the class teacher will not assume the child has read if there are no entries in the home/school reading record.

Please check **book bags** daily for letters / notes and remove them to keep the contents to a minimum.

Thank you for your co-operation in not coming into the classroom with your child in the morning. If you need to talk to me for any reason, either attract my attention while your child is lining up outside the classroom or if it is not urgent, make an appointment to see me after school.

Please provide your child with a **water bottle** for use in the classroom (It should **not** contain flavoured water/juice or squash). As a 'Healthy School' we want to promote water as the best drink through the day.

**Homework** is given out on a **Thursday** to be handed in the following **Tuesday**. Your support and feedback are valued. The tasks will be short and manageable (no more than 15 minutes at a time should be taken to complete a homework task although some tasks may need to be revisited on other days.) Your child will lose 5 minutes of their Golden Time if they have not completed weekly homework and handed it in on time. *Although I actively encourage the children to become more independent please note that the level of pupil progress is higher for those who have support with their homework including reading than those who don't.*

Spellings will be given out on a **Tuesday** and children will be tested every **Monday**. **Please note that it may be an activity and not always a list of words**. I will choose 10 words from that activity to test the children.

Snack bar is open on Friday playtimes. The children's money needs to be in a named purse.

### Useful Websites

[www.bbc.co.uk/schools/ks1bitesize](http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/ks1bitesize)

[www.woodlands-junior.kent.sch.uk/Homework](http://www.woodlands-junior.kent.sch.uk/Homework)

[www.mathszone.co.uk](http://www.mathszone.co.uk)

[www.phonicsplay.co.uk](http://www.phonicsplay.co.uk)

[www.ictgames.com](http://www.ictgames.com)

